

15. The system defined in Claim 14, wherein the remote interface includes one of the plurality of other microcontrollers.

16. The system defined in Claim 1, wherein the remote interface is connected to and proximately located to the first computer.

17. The system defined in Claim 2, wherein the independent power source powers the first computer when the first computer power source is inoperable or operating below a threshold power level.

18. The system defined in Claim 1, wherein the remote interface is capable of communicating the results of the reset command to the second computer.

19. The system defined in Claim 18, wherein the remote interface comprises a circuit having a remote interface microcontroller and a remote interface memory, and program code stored in the memory, and wherein the remote interface memory is connected to the remote interface microcontroller and stores the result data.

20. A microcontroller network for diagnosing and managing the conditions of a computer, the microcontroller network comprising:

a computer including a central processing unit;

a microcontroller bus; and

a plurality of microcontrollers that are interconnected by the microcontroller bus and wherein the microcontrollers manage the conditions of the computer, and wherein a selected one of the microcontrollers resets the central processing unit.

21. The system defined in Claim 20, additionally comprising a remote interface, wherein the remote interface comprises another selected one of the microcontrollers.

22. The system defined in Claim 21, wherein the remote interface includes a remote interface power source independent of a power source for the computer.

23. A microcontroller network for diagnosing and managing the conditions of a computer, the microcontroller network comprising:

a first computer comprising a central processing unit;

a microcontroller bus;

a plurality of microcontrollers that are interconnected by the microcontroller bus;

a recovery manager connected to the microcontroller bus, the recovery manager managing system status of the first computer and sending a reset command to the central processing unit.

24. The microcontroller network of Claim 23, wherein the recovery manager executes on a second computer.

25. The microcontroller network of Claim 23, wherein the recovery manager includes a graphical user interface capable of obtaining information utilized in sending the reset command.

26. The microcontroller network of Claim 23, wherein one of the microcontrollers is a remote interface microcontroller.

27. The microcontroller network of Claim 26, wherein the remote interface microcontroller interconnects the microcontroller bus with the recovery manager.

28. The microcontroller network of Claim 26, wherein the remote interface microcontroller connects with a remote interface power source independent of a first power source for the first computer.

29. The microcontroller network of Claim 28, wherein the independent power source connected to the remote interface microcontroller provides power to the first computer when the first power supply fails.

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B, 30. The microcontroller network of Claim 26, wherein the remote interface microcontroller is connected to and proximately located to the first computer.

REMARKS

Applicant amends the specification by this paper and adds new Claims 12-30. Claims 1-11 remain unchanged and are presented for examination. Reconsideration and allowance of all Claims 1-30 in light of the present remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicant has corrected a typographical error on page 16.

Discussion of the Claim Rejection under § 103(a)

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnson, U.S. Patent No. 5,857,074.

Applicant submits a *Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 131 to Overcome Johnson* by Ahmad Nouri and Karl S. Johnson. Ahmad Nouri and Karl S. Johnson are the two joint inventors of Claims 1-11 and new Claims 12-30.

The *Declaration* includes facts showing a completion of the invention in this country before the filing date of the application on which the domestic patent issued (37 C.F.R. § 1.131(a)(1) and M.P.E.P. § 715). The showing of facts are such, in character and weight, as to establish reduction to practice prior to the effective date of the reference, or conception of the invention prior to the effective date of the reference coupled with due diligence from prior to said date to a subsequent reduction to practice or to the filing of the application (37 C.F.R. § 1.131(b) and M.P.E.P. § 715).

The limitations of a microcontroller capable of providing a reset signal to the first computer, a remote interface connected to the microcontroller, and a second computer connected to the first computer via the remote interface and communicating a reset command to the microcontroller, as recited in Claim 1, were conceived at least by August 15, 1996. Due diligence in reducing the invention to practice either actually or constructively was made until at least May 13, 1997 when the United States Provisional Patent Applications No. 60/046,326 and 60/046,397 were filed, which are priority applications to the present application. Since Johnson was filed on August 16, 1996, Applicant submits that Johnson is removed from use as a reference for at least